

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BANGKO 11389 130706Z

17

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 AF-10 CU-05

IO-14 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 DRC-01 /104 W

----- 109866

R 130552Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5030

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

CINCPAC

USIA WASHDC

S E C R E T BANGKOK 11389

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, MILI, TH, MOPS, XO

SUBJ: US INDIAN OCEAN PATROLS FROM UTAPAO

REFS: A. FBIS 130200 JUL 1974

B. BANGKOK 11379

1. CONTRARY TO OUR EXPECTATIONS, BASED UPON EARLY RESPONSES TO QUERIES TO THE FOREIGN MINISTRY ABOUT THE CONTENT OF THE AMBASSADOR'S MEETING WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTER, THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE BANGKOK POST AND NATION NEWSPAPERS REPORTED THAT THE RTG HAS ASKED THE US TO STOP RECONNAISSANCE FLIGHTS OVER THE INDIAN OCEAN (SEE REF A). THE STORIES ARE NOT COMPLETELY CORRECT IN DETAIL. THAI LANGUAGE PRESS CARRIES NO REPORTS. THE CINESE LANGUAGE NEWSPAPERS REPORT WITHOUT COMMENT ONLY THAT RTG HAS ASKED THAT INDIAN OCEAN RECONNAISSANCE FLIGHTS CEASE.

2. SOURCE OF STORIES WAS EVIDENTLY THE FOREGN MINISTER, WHO TOLD AMBASSADOR KINTNER AT A SOCIAL FUNCTION LAST NIGHT THAT AFTER THE MEETING HE HAD BEEN CORNERED AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE BY REPORTERS. HE SAID THE HOPED THIS WOULD CAUSE NO PROBLEMS.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 BANGKO 11389 130706Z

3. AS OF NOW STORIES SEEM TO CONFIRM OUR INTERPRETATION THAT THE BAN APPLIES ONLY TO RECONNAISSANCE AND NOT TO OTHER TYPES OF FLIGHTS, SUCH AS LOGISTICAL SUPPORT FOR DIEGO GARCIA. WE WILL REPORT ON THIS ASPECT SEPARATELY.

4. THE PUBLICATION OF THESE STORIES PROBABLY MEANS THAT THE ABILITY OF THE RTG TO RECONSIDER ITS DECISION IN THE FUTURE WOULD BE MORE DIFFICULT.

5. WE ARE RESPONDING TO PRESS INQUIRIES AS FOLLOWS:

Q: WHAT WAS AMBASSADOR KINTNER'S RESPONSE IN HIS DISCUSSION YESTERDAY WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTER ABOUT US MARITIME SURVEILLANCE OF THE INDIAN OCEAN FROM UTAPAO?

A: I CAN'T GO INTO DETAIL ON THE EXCHANGES IN THE CONVERSATION, BUT THERE IS A CONTINUING PROCESS OF CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION BY THE USG AND THE RTG ON ALL US MILITARY ACTIVITIES IN THAILAND. THE AMBASSADOR RESPONDED DURING HIS CONVERATION WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTER THAT THE US WOULD, OF COURSE, DO NOTHING IN THAILAND TO VIOLATE THE DESIRES OF THE ROYAL THAI GOVERNMENT.

Q: HAVE US PLANES FLOWN RECONNAISSANCE FLIGHTS OVER THE INDIAN OCEAN FROM UTAPAO?

A: WE DO NOT DISCUSS THE SPECIFICS OF RECONNAISSANCE.

Q: IF SO, WERE THOSE FLIGHTS CONDUCTED WITH THE KNOWLEDGE AND AGREEMENT OF THE RTG?

A: IT IS US POLICY TO CONSULT AND COORDINATE WITH THE RTG ON ALL US MILITARY ACTIVITIES IN THAILAND.

Q: ARE US RECONNAISSANCE FLIGHTS OVER THE INDIAN OCEAN FROM UTAPAO GOING ON?

A: THERE ARE NO US RECONNAISSANCE FLIGHTS OF THE INDIAN OCEAN FROM UTAPAO AT THIS TIME.

Q: ARE P-3 AIRCRAFT BASED AT UTAPAO? IF SO, HOW MANY?

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 BANGKO 11389 130706Z

A: THERE ARE SOME P-3 AIRCRAFT ON TEMPORARY DUTY AT UTAPAO.

Q: WERE THEY UNTIL YESTERDAY BEING USED FOR ACTIVITIES OVER THE INDIAN OCEAN?

A: WE REPLIED TO A SMILIAR QUESTION LAST MARCH. THE MISSION OF THE P-3'S AT UTAPAO IS TO CONDUCT GENERAL SURVEILLANCE IN THIS

AREA AND SUPPORT TASK GROUP OPERATIONS AS REQUIRED. THIS SURVEILLANCE MIGHT HAVE ENCOMPASSED AREAS OF THE INDIAN OCEAN FROM TIME TO TIME.

Q: IT HAS BEEN REPORTED THAT THERE IS A US TASK GROUP IN THE INDIAN OCEAN AT THIS TIME. ARE THE P-3'S AT UTAPAO BEING USED TO CONDUCT SURVEILLANCE OF THE INDIAN OCEAN IN SUPPORT OF THAT TASK GROUP?

A: I REPLIED TO THAT EARLIER. THERE ARE NO US RECONNAISSANCE FLIGHTS OVER THE INDIAN OCEAN FROM UTAPAO AT THIS TIME.
KINTNER

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY PERSONNEL, INDIAN OCEAN ZONE OF PEACE, PRESS COMMENTS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, POLITICAL SITUATION, MILITARY PLANS, OBSERVATION AIRCRAFT, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 JUL 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GarlanWA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974BANGKO11389
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740188-0025
From: BANGKOK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740751/aaaabrcc.tel
Line Count: 127
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A. FBIS 130200 JUL 1974
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GarlanWA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12-Aug-2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <27 MAR 2003 by GarlanWA>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: US INDIAN OCEAN PATROLS FROM UTAPAO
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, MILI, MOPS, TH, XO, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005